

|                                       |   |             |                |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------|----------------|
| In re application of:                 | : |             |                |
| Takashi YAZAKI                        | : |             |                |
|                                       | : |             |                |
|                                       | : |             |                |
| Application No.: 10/040,071           | : | Art Unit:   | 2836           |
|                                       | : |             |                |
| Filed: October 24, 2001               | : | Examiner:   | To be assigned |
|                                       | : |             |                |
| For: <b>PROTECTION STRUCTURE OF A</b> | : | Docket No.: | NEM-03501      |
| <b>CIRCUIT BOARD AND METHOD FOR</b>   | : |             |                |
| <b>MANUFACTURING THE SAME</b>         | : |             |                |

003. Tracey Newell  
Name: Tracey Newell

## 3557803v1

references were cited. A copy of the official action is enclosed. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application corresponding to the above-captioned U.S. patent application. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

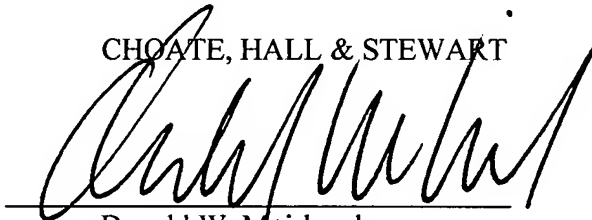
The Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the space adjacent to each document on the PTO-1449 form and return a copy of the PTO-1449 form to confirm that these documents have been considered by the Examiner and made of record in this application.

Although we believe that we have appropriately provided for any fees due in connection with this submission, the Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any deficiencies to/from our **Deposit Account No. 031721**. Two originally-executed copies of this form are being submitted.

Should there be any questions after reviewing this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (617) 248-4038.

Respectfully submitted,

CHOATE, HALL & STEWART

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Donald W. Mairhead', is written over a horizontal line.

Donald W. Mairhead  
Registration No. 33,978

May 2, 2003  
Date

Patent Group  
Choate, Hall & Stewart  
Exchange Place, 53 State Street  
Boston, MA 02109-2804

Dispatch Date: December 17, 2002

*[Text omitted – Translator]*

- (a) Microfilm of Japanese Utility Model Application No. H2-80799 (Japanese Utility Model Application Kokai No. H4-38091)
- (b) CD-ROM of Japanese Utility Model Application No. H4-65440 (Japanese Utility Model Application Kokai No. H6-23272)
- (c) Registered Utility Model No. 3021144
- (d) Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. 2000-68658
- (e) Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H4-219996
- (f) Microfilm of Japanese Utility Model Application No. S54-33878 (Japanese Utility Model Application Kokai No. S55-135493)
- (g) Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H7-74485

In the inventions described in above-mentioned publications (a) through (d) as well, two engaging parts of a protection cover consisting of an insulating material are engaged to the end(s) of a circuit board or an electronic device located nearby.  
(It can be said that these inventions also suggest the use of hook parts as the engaging structures.)

Furthermore, providing an insulating plate between the electronic device and the circuit board is a technical matter that is well known to any person skilled in the art, as also seen in the inventions described in above-mentioned publications (e) through (g).

Moreover, it can be interpreted that a gap is also formed in the inventions described in above-mentioned publications (c), (d), (f), and (g) in a similar manner to the manner described in Claims 5, 7, and 8 of the present application.

*[Text omitted – Translator]*

• Prior Art References:

Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H7-209630  
Japanese Utility Model Application Kokai No. H6-2765  
Japanese Utility Model Application Kokai No. H5-29197  
Japanese Utility Model Application Kokai No. S59-128797  
Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. S58-48499

This record of the results of a survey of prior art references does not constitute any reason for rejection.

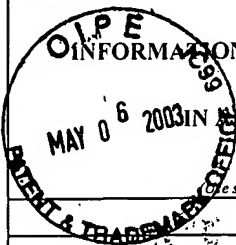
Form PTO-1449

Docket Number (Optional)

Application Number

NEM-03501

10/040,071



(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant Takashi YAZAKI

Filing Date October 24, 2001

Group Art Unit 2836

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| AA                  |                 |      |      |       |          |                               |
| AB                  |                 |      |      |       |          |                               |
| AC                  |                 |      |      |       |          |                               |
| AD                  |                 |      |      |       |          |                               |
| AE                  |                 |      |      |       |          |                               |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE       | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |
|----|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|
| AF | 4-219996        | 8-11-1992  | JP      |       |          |             |
| AG | 7-74485         | 3-17-1995  | JP      |       |          |             |
| AH | 2000-68658      | 3-3-2000   | JP      |       |          |             |
| AI | 6-23272         | 3-25-1994  | JP      |       |          |             |
| AJ | 3021144         | 11-22-1995 | JP      |       |          |             |
| AK | 5-29197         | 4-16-1993  | JP      |       |          |             |
| AL | 6-2765          | 1-14-1994  | JP      |       |          |             |
| AM | 58-48499        | 3-22-1983  | JP      |       |          |             |
| AN | 55-135493       | 3-15-1954  | JP      |       |          |             |
| AO | 4-38091         | 3-31-1992  | JP      |       |          |             |
| AP | 7-209630        | 8-11-95    | JP      |       |          |             |
| AQ | 59-128797       | 8-30-84    | JP      |       |          |             |
| AR |                 |            |         |       |          |             |
| AS |                 |            |         |       |          |             |
| AT |                 |            |         |       |          |             |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|    |  |
|----|--|
| AU |  |
| AV |  |
| AW |  |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE